

Message Text

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PAGE 01 EC BRU 05176 101733Z

43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9014

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE EC BRUSSELS 5176

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ETRD, EEC

SUBJECT: EC INLAND WATERWAY TONNAGE CAPACITY REGULATIONS --
DUTCH PROGRAM TO BREAK UP BARGES

REF: EC BRUSSELS 5075

1. A CONTACT IN THE DUTCH PERMANENT REPRESENTATION INFORMED US ON JUNE 10 THAT THE DUTCH GOVERNMENT HOPES TO HAVE ITS PROGRAM TO BREAK UP OLD INLAND WATERWAY BARGES APPROVED BY THE DUTCH PARLIAMENT BY JANUARY 1, 1976. THE PROGRAM IS EXPECTED TO TAKE FOUR YEARS TO COMPLETE. ON THE BASIS OF THIS INFORMATION, IT WOULD APPEAR THAT BARGES OF 300 TO 400 METRIC TONS DEADWEIGHT CAPACITY WOULD BE REQUIRED TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE EC SCHEME FOR LAYING UP BARGES UNTIL JANUARY 1, 1980 AT THE EARLIEST (SEE REFTEL).

2. WE TOOK THE OCCASION TO ASK THE DUTCH OFFICIAL WHY HIS GOVERNMENT HAD BACKED AWAY FROM ITS EARLIER OPPOSITION TO INCLUDING SHIP-BORNE BARGES IN THE SCHEME. HE RESPONDED THAT THERE HAD BEEN STRONG PRESSURE FOR THEIR INCLUSION BY THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 EC BRU 05176 101733Z

OTHER MEMBER STATES AND THAT THERE WOULD BE SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS

MADE FOR SHIP-BORNE BARGES INVOLVING A SIMPLIFIED PAYMENTS
SYSTEM BASED ON TIME SPENT IN THE INLAND WATERWAYS. HE
ALSO SAID RATES WOULD BE LOW, ALTHOUGH ACTUAL RATES HAD
NOT BEEN ESTABLISHED. GREENWALD

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Message Attributes

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